

Health Care System and Health Care Security Board Summary of Meeting on June 24, 2002

The Health Care System and Health Care Security Board met on Monday, June 24th in Room 427, State House. The meeting was called to order by the Chairs, Senator Martin and Representative Volenik. The minutes of the May 20th meeting were accepted. In addition, the date for the next meeting was changed from July 8th to July 12th due to the holiday and furlough day on July 4th and 5th.

Funding and Budget Update

Board budget. On June 24, 2002, the balance in the Health Security Board account is \$2942.87; \$7057.13 has been spent on grant writing (\$5000.00); on travel expenses (\$ 1500.00) and on postage and printing costs (remaining funds). The balance in the personnel budget to cover legislative per diem for 4 meetings is \$220.00.

The Board has received \$33,805 in private fund through donations from several groups and individuals. An additional \$500 donation from the Association of Certified Nurse Midwives-Maine chapter will soon be deposited and bring the amount of funds raised to date to \$34,305. These funds have been earmarked for the feasibility study if the grant from the MHAF is not received or, in the alternative, to cover data collection costs and other costs associated with the feasibility study.

Maine Health Access Foundation Grant Process. The Maine Health Access Foundation is on track to make its award decisions by mid-July. As a follow up to our grant application, the Foundation asked for information regarding the consultants that submitted proposals in response to the RFP. Staff sent the list of submitted proposals to Wendy Wolf, Executive Director of the Foundation. The Board directed staff to send executive summaries of the proposals to the Foundation. Copies were sent after the meeting.

Use of Medicaid and Maine Health Management Coalition Databases

The Board received a letter from Eugene Gessow, Director of the Bureau of Medical Services, granting permission to use aggregate Medicaid (MaineCare) claims data in connection with the feasibility study. The Board (and the consultant selected by the Board) will work with the Bureau of Medical Services and the Maine Health Information Center, the entity that manages the Medicaid database, to identify the necessary data and develop the specifications for the feasibility study. The Board will pay any costs associated with the data collection to the Maine Health Information Center.

The Board also requested permission from the Maine Health Management Coalition to use the Coalition's employer claims database in connection with the feasibility study. If permission is granted, the consultant chosen by the Board will work with the Maine Health Management Coalition and the Maine Health Information Center to identify aggregate claims data necessary for use in the study. The Maine Health Management Coalition board planned to meet on June 27th and will consider this request. A decision is expected before July 22nd.

Request for Proposals

The Board received 5 proposals in response to its RFP from the following entities: 1) Solutions for Progress, Inc. (in partnership with Boston Univ. School of Public Health); 2) Center for Health Affairs, Project HOPE; 3) Mathematica Policy Research Inc.; 4) The Lewin Group, Inc.; 5) LECG, LLC. Copies

of the complete proposals were distributed at the meeting and electronic versions were sent prior to the meeting.

Process for Evaluation of Proposals

After some discussion, the Board outlined their process for evaluation of the proposals. Before the meeting on July 12th, members have been asked to read and pre-evaluate each proposal using the score sheet and evaluation criteria. Using the evaluation criteria as a guide, the Board will discuss and compare the proposals to assess whether the proposals meet the Board's expectations. The following Board members have volunteered to facilitate discussion of the proposals in the following areas:

Evaluation Criteria	Board Facilitator
Approach/Quality of model: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding and Ability to meet scope of work• quality and understanding of model• quality of data elements	Beth Kilbreth
Evaluation of work plan	Frank Johnson
Accessibility and Communication	Frank O'Hara
qualifications/expertise: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• experience with state governments• evaluation of references	Sen. Martin/Rep. Volenik
Qualifications/expertise: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• personnel• experience in micro simulation modeling and health care economics• evaluation of prior studies	Dr. Wexler/Victoria Kuhn

Press Release

To generate additional public awareness, the Board directed staff to draft a press release highlighting the quality of the proposals received and the process for selection of a consultant to conduct the feasibility study. A press release was faxed to the media on June 25th. Small items in response to the press release appeared in the Lewiston Sun Journal and the Portland Press Herald.

Upcoming Schedule of Meetings

The next meeting will be held Friday, July 8th at 9:30 am. The agenda will focus on review and discussion of the proposals submitted in response to the RFP. The Board will meet again on July 22nd at 9:30 am to finalize its selection of a contractor. All meetings will be Room 427, State House, Augusta, Maine.